Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

BY-LAWS.

REVISED DECEMBER 9, 1869.

CHAPTER I.

TITLE.

The title of the Society is, "The American Geographical and Statistical Society."

CHAPTER II.

OBJECTS.

The objects of the Society are, "The collecting and diffusing of geographical and statistical information."

CHAPTER III.

MEMBERS.

The Society shall consist of Resident, Non-Resident, Honorary, Corresponding, and Ex-officio members.

1. Resident members are those residing in the city of New York, or its vicinity.

2. Non-resident members are those residing at least twenty-five miles distant from the city.

3. Honorary members shall be chosen on account of their distinction in the science of geography or statistics, and not more than twelve of them shall hereafter be elected in any one year.

4. Corresponding members shall be chosen from those who have aided the advancement of geography or statistics.

5. Ex-officio members shall be foreign diplomatic representatives and consuls, resident in the United States; and United States diplomatic representatives and consuls in foreign countries.

6. Resident, non-resident, corresponding, and honorary members shall be elected as follows: All nominations of candidates shall be openly made in writing at a meeting of the Society, or the Council, by a member thereof, and, together with the name of the member making them, entered on the minutes. The persons thus nominated, when approved by the Council and elected by the Society, shall, on payment of the initiation fee, if nominated as a resident or non-resident member, and without such payment if nominated as a corresponding or honorary member, become members of the Society accordingly.

7. Persons entitled to become ex-officio members of the Society, shall, on the recommendation of the Council, be, by the Society, constituted and declared to be such members.

8. The name of any member of the Society may, on the recommendation of the Council, and by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at a stated meeting of the Society, be dropped from the roll of its members.

CHAPTER IV.

INITIATION FEE AND ANNUAL DUES.

1. The initiation fee, including the dues for the current year, shall be, for a resident member, ten dollars; and for a non-resident member, five dollars; in both cases to be paid immediately on election.

2. The annual dues thereafter shall be, for a resident member, five dollars; and for a non-resident member, two dollars and a half; both to be paid in advance.

3. Any member of the Society, not in arrears, may commute for life all dues for membership, by the payment at one time, if a resident member, of fifty dollars; and, if a non-resident member, twenty-five dollars.

4. The name of any resident or non-resident member of the Society, neglecting for two successive years to pay his annual dues, or at any time wholly refusing to pay them, may, by the Council, be erased from the list of members of the Society.

5. The fiscal year of the Society shall, for all purposes, be the calendar year, that is, commence on the first day of January, and end with the thirty-first day of December, in each year.

CHAPTER V.

OFFICERS.

1. The officers of the Society shall be a President, three Vice-Presidents, a Foreign Corresponding Secretary, a Domestic Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, a Librarian, a Treasurer, and eight Councillors; and these officers together shall form the Council of the Society.

2. The officers of the Society shall be chosen from among its members; they shall be elected annually by ballot, and shall hold their offices respectively until others are elected in their places.

3. All officers of the Society, to be chosen at any election, may be voted for on one ballot.

CHAPTER VI.

ANNUAL MEETING.

1. The annual meeting of the Society shall be held on the second Tuesday after the first day of January in each and every year hereafter, when the annual election of the officers of the Society shall take place; and if, from any cause, there shall be a failure of the annual election at the time above designated for that purpose, the same may be held on the Tuesday next following, that is, on the third Tuesday after the first day of January in each year, and of which due notice shall be given.

2. Every member of the Society, who has been such for twenty days or more, and who is not in arrears for his dues, shall be entitled to vote at the said election.

3. At the annual meeting of the Society, the Council shall present a general report of its proceedings, and of those of the Society during the past year, and the Secretaries and Treasurer shall also present their annual reports.

CHAPTER VII.

MONTHLY AND SPECIAL MEETINGS.

1. The Society, unless otherwise specially ordered by the Society or the Council, shall hold its stated meetings for the transaction of business, on the second Tuesday of each month of the year, except July, August, and September.

2. The President, or, in his absence, one of the Vice-Presidents, may, and, upon the written request of five members, shall call a special meeting of the Society, by giving three days' notice thereof in two daily newspapers, published in the city of New York.

CHAPTER VIII.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. At all stated meetings of the Society, for the transaction of ordinary business, the order of proceedings shall be as follows:

1. Reading of the minutes.
2. Reports and Communications from officers of the Society.
3. Reports from the Council.
4. Reports from Committees.
5. Nominations of Members.
6. Special Orders.
7. Unfinished Business.
8. Miscellaneous Business.
9. Papers read and Addresses delivered before the Society.

2. All propositions presented for the action of the Society, at any of its meetings, shall be in writing when requested by the presiding officer, or any member. A proposition, thus presented, when seconded, and the question thereon stated from the chair, shall be deemed to be in the possession of the Society, and open for discussion; but may be withdrawn by the mover, at any time before amendment or decision.

3. No member shall speak more than once upon the same question until all the other members present, desiring to speak, shall have spoken; nor more than twice on any question without leave of the Society.

CHAPTER IX.

QUORUM.

At all meetings of the Society, nine members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

CHAPTER X.

COMMITTEES.

All Committees, authorized by the Society, shall, unless otherwise specially ordered, consist of three members each, and be appointed by the presiding officer.

CHAPTER XI.

PRESIDING OFFICER.

At all meetings of the Society, on the arrival of the appointed hour, and the presence of a quorum, the President, or, in his absence, one of the Vice-Presidents, or, in the absence of both, a Chairman *pro tem.*, shall immediately take the chair, call the meeting to order, and preside. He shall have only a casting vote. He shall preserve order and decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Society. He shall also, unless other-

wise specially ordered, appoint all Committees authorized by the Society; and, at every annual election, before the opening of the polls, he shall appoint two Tellers of the Election.

CHAPTER XII.

SECRETARIES.

1. Foreign Corresponding Secretary. It shall be the duty of the Foreign Corresponding Secretary to conduct the general correspondence of the Society with individuals and associate bodies in foreign countries.

2. Domestic Corresponding Secretary. It shall be the duty of the Domestic Corresponding Secretary to conduct the Society's general correspondence with individuals and associate bodies in the United States.

3. Both the Foreign and Domestic Secretaries shall keep, in suitable books to be provided for that purpose, at the Society's Rooms, true copies of all letters written by them respectively on behalf of the Society; and shall preserve, on proper files, at the said Rooms, all letters received by them on the same account; and at each stated meeting of the Society or the Council, they shall respectively report their correspondence, and read the same, or such parts thereof as may be required.

4. In case of a vacancy in the office of either of the Corresponding Secretaries, or in the absence or disability of either of these officers, the duties of both may be performed by the other Corresponding Secretary.

5. The Society may designate a particular officer, or appoint a committee to prepare a letter or letters on any special occasion.

6. Recording Secretary. It shall be the duty of the Recording Secretary to give due notice of the time and place of all meetings of the Society, and to attend the same. He shall keep fair and accurate minutes of the proceedings of the Society, and record the same, when approved, in the Society's Journal. He shall give immediate notice to the several officers and commit-

tees of the Society, of all votes, orders, resolves, and proceedings of the Society, affecting them, or appertaining to their respective duties. He shall prepare a list of the members of the Society entitled to vote, to be handed to the Tellers before the opening of the polls at each annual election. He shall officially sign and affix the corporate seal of the Society to all diplomas, and other instruments or documents authorized by the Society or Council. He shall have charge of the corporate seal, charter, by-laws, records, and general archives of the Society, except so far as they may be expressly placed under the charge of others. He shall certify all acts and proceedings of the Society, and shall notify the Council of the death, resignation, or removal of any officer or member of the Society. He shall have charge of the Rooms of the Society, and shall perform all such other and further duties as may, from time to time, be devolved upon him by the Society or the Council. He shall receive, for his services, such salary or pecuniary compensation as shall be determined by the Society or the Council; but neither in the Society nor the Council shall he have a vote on any question relating to, or affecting, his salary or pecuniary compensation.

7. All documents relating to the Society, and under the charge of the Secretaries respectively, shall be placed in such depositories in the Rooms of the Society as the Council may provide and designate for that purpose.

CHAPTER XIII.

LIBRARIAN.

The Librarian, together with the Council, shall have the charge and arrangement of the books, maps, and collections belonging to the Society. He shall cause to be kept in the Rooms of the Society, a Registry of all donations to the Library or collections of the Society, acknowledge their receipt by letter to the donors, and report the same, in writing, to the Society at its next stated meeting.

CHAPTER XIV.

TREASURER.

The Treasurer shall have charge of, and safely keep, all contracts, certificates of stock, securities, and muniments of title belonging to the Society. He shall collect the dues and keep the funds of the Society, and disburse the same under the direction of the Council; and so often as the said funds in the hands of the Treasurer shall amount to one hundred dollars, he shall deposit the same, in the name of the Society, in some incorporated bank in the city of New York; to be designated for that purpose by the Council; and the said funds, thus deposited, shall be drawn out of the said bank on the check of the Treasurer, countersigned by the Chairman of the Council, and only for the legitimate and authorized purposes of the Society. The Treasurer shall, previous to the annual meeting of the Society, prepare and submit to the Council, for audit, a detailed account of his receipts and disbursements for account of the Society during the past year; and which annual account, duly audited, he shall present, with his general report, to the Society, at its annual meeting.

CHAPTER XV.

COUNCIL.

1. The Council shall have the management and control of the affairs, property, and funds of the Society; and shall designate an incorporated bank in the city of New York, where the said funds shall, from time to time as they accrue, be deposited by the Treasurer.

2. It may frame its own By-Laws not inconsistent with the Charter or By-Laws of the Society.

3. It may, from time to time, determine the salary or pecuniary compensation of the Recording Secretary; and shall also appoint the necessary agents, clerks, and servants of the Society, with such powers, duties, privileges, and compensation, as it may,

from time to time, determine; and may, at pleasure, revoke such appointments, and make others in their stead.

4. It shall have power to fill, for the unexpired term, any vacancy that may occur in any of the offices of the Society.

5. It shall have power, at its discretion, to declare vacant the seat of any member of its own body (except the President and Vice-Presidents) who shall have been absent from its meetings for three successive months; and also, by a vote of a majority of the whole Council, to remove, from its own body, any member thereof for cause; but in such case it shall be the duty of the Council to report every such vacancy or removal to the Society, at its next stated meeting thereafter, when such cases shall be subject to review by the Society.

6. It shall not, without an approving vote of the Society, at a stated meeting thereof, make any contract whereby a liability in amount above one thousand dollars may be incurred by the Society; nor, without such vote, make any sale or disposition of the property of the Society, exceeding that sum in value.

7. The Council may, in its discretion, remit the initiation fee, or annual dues, of any member of the Society.

8. No member of the Council, except the Recording Secretary, shall receive any salary or pecuniary compensation for his services.

9. The Council shall hold stated meetings for the transaction of business, at least once in every month, except the months of July, August, and September.

10. At all meetings of the Council, five members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

CHAPTER XVI.

GENERAL PROVISION AS TO DEBT.

No debt on account of the Society, beyond the funds in the Treasury for its payment, shall, for any purpose, at any time, be incurred; and if, at any time, it shall appear that there are rest-

ing upon the Society, pecuniary obligations beyond the funds in the Treasury for their liquidation, no appropriation of funds from the Treasury whatever, except for the necessary current expenses of the Society, shall be made, until the said pecuniary obligations shall be fully discharged, or the funds necessary for their extinction shall have been set apart for that purpose.

CHAPTER XVII.

ALTERATION OF THE BY-LAWS.

No alteration in the By-Laws of the Society shall be made unless openly proposed at a stated meeting of the Society, entered on the minutes, with the name of the member proposing the same, and adopted by the Society at a subsequent stated meeting, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

CHAPTER XVIII.

ADOPTION OF THE BY-LAWS.

The foregoing are hereby adopted and declared to be the By-Laws of the Society; and all By-Laws of the Society heretofore adopted, are hereby rescinded, and declared to be null and void.